2012 State Tax Collections

The U.S. Census Bureau is currently conducting the 2012 Census of Governments. The Census of Governments identifies the scope and nature of the nation's state and local government sector; provides authoritative benchmark figures of public finance and public employment; classifies local government organizations, powers, and activities; and measures federal, state, and local fiscal relationships. One product of the 2012 Census of Governments is the Annual Survey of State Government Tax Collections. This survey provides a summary of taxes collected by the 50 states for up to 25 tax subcategories, that fall into five broad categories including: property taxes, sales and gross receipts taxes, license taxes, income taxes, and other taxes. All data are based on a state's fiscal year. For more information on the Census of Governments and its related products, visit www.census.gov/govs.

Five Tax Categories

Sales and Gross Receipts

Taxes on goods and services, measured on the basis of the volume or value of their transfer.

Income

Taxes levied on the gross income of individuals or on the net income of corporations and businesses.

License

Taxes exacted as a condition to the exercise of a business or nonbusiness privilege.

Other

Taxes include death and gift taxes, documentary and stock transfer taxes, severance taxes, and all other taxes not elsewhere classified.

Property

Taxes imposed on the ownership of property and measured by its value.

Total Tax Collections by Category 2012

Sales and Gross Receipts 47.2% (\$374.8 b)

Income 40.5% (\$322.1 b)

License 6.8% (\$54.0 b)

Other 3.9% (\$30.7 b)

Property 1.6% (\$13.0 b)

At \$374.8 billion, sales and gross receipts taxes are the largest sources of state government tax revenues in 2012. Income taxes account for \$322.1 billion of total state tax collections. Rounding out the top three categories is license taxes, measuring at \$54.0 billion of total state tax revenue.

A Deeper Look at Sales and Gross Receipts and Income Taxes

\$242.7 b General Sales & Gross Receipts

\$280.4 b Individual Income



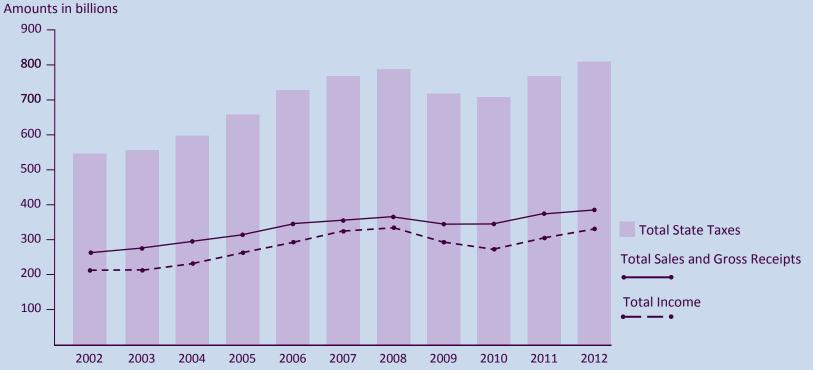


Sales and gross receipts taxes are distinguished between general sales and gross receipts taxes, and selective sales and gross receipts taxes. Subcategories of selective sales and gross receipts taxes include motor fuel sales, alcoholic beverage sales, public utilities sales, insurance premium sales, tobacco product sales, pari-mutuels sales, amusement sales, and other selective sales and gross receipts. Income taxes are comprised of individual income taxes and corporation net income taxes.

At **\$280.4 billion**, individual income taxes are the single largest source of state tax revenue in 2012. General sales tax revenue is the second largest component of state tax revenue.

Total State Tax Collections 2002-2012

The figure below displays the historical trend of state tax revenue collections from 2002-2012. Before 2009, state tax collections grew each year. In 2009, states began to see a decline in their tax collection revenue, with the largest decrease occurring in 2009. Total state tax collection only started to report positive growth again in 2011. The figure also shows similar trends for general sales and gross receipts taxes and income taxes in the same time period.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Census of Governments: Finance - Survey of State Government Tax Collections. www.census.gov/govs/statetax









